

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 12571 190754Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 NIC-01 SAM-01 EUR-12 /067 W

----- 024073

R 190649Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2918

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO BY POUCH

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 12571

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: DEMOBILIZED SERVICEMEN'S DISPUTE IN CANTON

REF: A. PEKING 1843; B. HONG KONG 11524

1. USLO OFFICERS AT CANTON TRADE FAIR OBSERVED
MANIFESTATIONS OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN DEMOBILIZED SERVICEMEN AND
CANTON AUTHORITIES OVER WAGES AND A BONUS SYSTEM DISCONTINUED
IN 1968 (REFTELS). EX-SERVICEMEN WHO HAVE PUT UP POSTERS
THROUGHOUT THE CITY TO AIR THEIR DISPUTE CONVENED A LARGE MEETING--
INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUTSIDE CANTON--ON OCTOBER 28
TO RESTATE THEIR DEMANDS AND DISCUSS THE AUTHORITIES' HANDLING
OF THE SITUATION. ACCORDING TO THE POSTERS, CANTON MAYOR CHIAO
LIN-YI WAS INVITED TO ATTEND AND SUBSEQUENT POSTERS CONTINUED
TO ATTACK HIS POSITION.

2. MOST RECENT EVENT REPORTED IN POSTERS IS THE ARREST OF A
GROUP OF DEMOBILIZED SERVICEMEN BY RAILROAD STATION POLICE
(NOVEMBER 8) WHEN EX-SERVICEMEN WERE DISTRIBUTING MATERIALS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 12571 190754Z

SUPPORTING THEIR POSITION. SUBSEQUENT RELEASE OF LEAFLET

DISTRIBUTORS DID NOT APPEASE WORKERS WHO IN FOLLOW-ON POSTERS VENTED ANGER AT THE ACTION AND ATTACKED POLICE FOR SUPPRESSING RIGHTS GUARANTEED IN THE PARTY CONSTITUTION. SEVERAL OVERSEAS CHINESE WITH WHOM ONE USLO OFFICER SPOKE IN CANTON FELT THAT DISPUTE WAS POTENTIALLY DISRUPTIVE, ALTHOUGH THE CITY WAS OUTWARDLY CALM.

COMMENT. REPORT THAT OCTOBER 28 MEETING INCLUDED GROUPS FROM OUTSIDE CANTON IS THE FIRST INFORMATION THAT THE DISPUTE MAY BE SPREADING IN KWANGTUNG. ANGER AT CANTON AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR HANDLING OF WORKER DEMANDS AS "ECONOMISM" AND PARTICULARLY FOR THE RAILROAD POLICE HANDLING OF THE NOVEMBER 8 INCIDENT COULD BE FOCAL POINT OF FURTHER CLASHES. SINCE FORMER SERVICEMEN WERE ORIGINALLY STUDENTS, THE DISPUTANTS INVOLVE SEVERAL OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS--WORKERS, STUDENT, MILITARY--WHICH COULD MAKE ANY FURTHER CONTROVERSY DIFFICULT FOR THE AUTHORITIES TO SMOOTH OVER. ADDITIONAL DETAILED INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER POSTER ISSUES IN CANTON WILL FOLLOW IN AIRGRAM.
CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, WAGES, SLOGANS, DISPUTES, DEMOBILIZATION, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HONGK12571
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740333-0988
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741132/aaaabapc.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. PEKING 1843; B. HONG KONG 11524
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMOBILIZED SERVICEMEN'S DISPUTE IN CANTON
TAGS: PINT, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005